

REMARKS

Prior to this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-15 were pending in the above-identified application. By this Response, claims 1, 3, and 12 are amended; claims 2, 4-11, and 13-15 are unchanged from their respective immediate prior versions; no claims are cancelled; and no claims are added. Thus, claims 1-15 are presently pending in the above-identified application.

Applicant(s) respectfully submit(s) that all pending claims of the above-identified application are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions related to this Preliminary Amendment or to the application in general, the undersigned would appreciate the opportunity to address those questions directly in a telephone interview to expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Additionally, Applicant(s) respectfully request acknowledgment of receipt of this (these) paper(s) (including the accompanying submissions) by marking and mailing the return postcard that has been provided herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald W. Roberts
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 45,046

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One North Pennsylvania Street, Suite 850
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Phone: (317) 822-0033
4001-0024B (ZM0626) PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT